

THE LOUISIANIAN
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NOTICE
All communications must be addressed
to "The LOUISIANIAN," and anonymous
letters will not be accepted for publication,
but as an evidence of good faith.
We are not responsible for opinions of
our contributors.

PROSPECTUS
OF
The LOUISIANIAN.

In the endeavor to establish other Repub-
lican journals in New Orleans, the proprietors
of the LOUISIANIAN, propose to fill a necessity
which has long been, and sometimes really felt
to exist. In the transition of our people
in their struggling efforts to attain that
position in the Holy Field which we con-
ceive to be their duty, the LOUISIANIAN
will be their guide, their counselor, their
adviser, and their friend. It will be the
organ of the Republic, and its principles
will be its life and soul. It will be the
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will be its life and soul.

POLICE
After more than a year, the LOUISIANIAN
has been able to publish all the news
of the city. We shall continue to do so
with the same energy and with the same
faithfulness. We shall continue to do so
with the same energy and with the same
faithfulness. We shall continue to do so
with the same energy and with the same
faithfulness.

TAXATION
We shall support the doctrine of an equitable
division of taxation among all classes. A faithful
collection of the revenues, economy in the
expenditures, conformity with the exigencies of
the State or country and the discharge of every
legitimate obligation.

EDUCATION
We shall maintain the existing out of the
provisions of the act establishing our common
school system, and urge as a paramount duty
the education of our youth as vitally connected
with our civilization, and the security
and stability of a Republican Government.

FINA
By a generous, honest, independent, and
judicious conduct, we shall strive to rescue
our people from an ephemeral and temporary
existence, and establish it upon a basis that if
we cannot "command," we shall at all events
"persuade."

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THE LOUISIANIAN.

"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

VOLUME 1.

NEW ORLEANS LA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, 1870.

NUMBER 2.

LOSS.

Lost among the lilies in the sun,
The stainless lilies, gorged each one
In robes of moon rays and white-dew-drops
spin.

The scented grass stood tall on either side,
And hid the path before me open'd wide,
Over which I pondered, wan and heavy-eyed.

That message, where the purpose long de-
cealed,
At man's own mastering mandate stands re-
vealed,
And fervid pleading tempts the heart to
yield.

Ah, bitter trial! who shall count the cost
When love and honor in the scales are tossed,
Out-balanced by imperious pride, and lost?

I plucked a waxen petal, whispering, "Leaf,
Shall this my late-found faith, so sweet, so
brief,
Perish and shrivel into unbelief,

"Type of the life of passion, innocence,
Show me the fulness of the recompense,
When frigid duty conquers soul and sense!"

"Within this fateful page I fold thee down,
Of whose wild words I dare not make a
crown,
And sigh with longing when I should but
frown."

The autumn winds shriek by—the autumn
rain,
Fear-like and sad, creeps down the dark-
ening pane;
The gift of life seems valueless and vain.

I hold the lily leaf within my hand,
Brown as the ocean's salt and bitter sand,
Through all my weary heart I understand.
MARY I. MITCHELL.

"OUR STORY-TELLER."

TOLD BY AN OCTOBER.

Some intuitive unconscious fear made
me very distant with him, but one might
as well be cold to a sunbeam. He was
one of those who, though they never pre-
sume, yet are never abashed. He played
with the little Belle and Marion, and be-
ing enthusiastically favored by them, he
was frequently in my presence; and, while
I never forgot my station or birth when
with the Wyndhams, with Ralph Moly-
neux my sad past was for the time for-
gotten.

He came eagerly to me one afternoon,
saying that he had obtained permission
from Mrs. Wyndham for the children to
go out to the Lorry Falls with him, and
he had ordered the pony carriage in half
an hour. Could we be ready in time?
"I can send them down before then,"
I replied, catching Belle's hand, as she was
loping round in her joy, and turning to
go into the house.

"But you are going," he said, stepping
before me, not looking at me, however,
out twisting the child's curls as he spoke.
"Mrs. Wyndham desired that you might
go to see to the children, and I granted
permission," now looking up and flashing a
swift smile over me.

"But you take the girls off alone very
often," I said.
"That is no reason for you to neglect
your duty," he responded, now looking
at me with eyes irresistibly winking.

"I will go," I said, conscious of a desire
to go, and yet of a feeling that I ought
not to gratify it.
In a few moments we came down and
found Ralph reading a letter which had
just been brought. He was looking very
grave, and did not glance up as we came
down. Major Wyndham was standing
near, and while we waited in the back-
ground the Major said:

"From home, Ralph?"
"Yes, Wayne writes that my mother's
favorite maid, Fannie, has run away, and
one of the women in the field is missing."

"If they were mine, and were caught,
as they would be, they wouldn't run away
a second time," said the Major, watching
with his delicate cane a blooming plant
at his feet.

"Fannie might escape easy enough for
a white person. She's no blacker than
you or I. Mother bought her while I
was away, at the sale of Dr. Malcolm's
negroes in Georgia,——county," said
Ralph, folding up his letter.
He could not see me, but I felt there

was a sword in my eyes as I looked at
him. Dr. Malcolm of——county, Geo-
gia, was my father. But even aside from
that, I was half stunned by the feeling
that possessed me on hearing him speak
thus.

"I've heard the Doctor had a few rather
white negroes," remarked Wyndham with
a cynical smile.

"Let them go; I shan't hunt them up,"
said Ralph, referring to his own property.
"There's where you are wrong," re-
sponded Wyndham; and Ralph turned
without reply to see if we had come down,
while the Major walked away.

He looked as if he were about to utter
some gay sentence, but my face, which I
could not master immediately, deterred
him. He came closer to me and said in
a low, soft tone:

"You are offended, and I have a sense
of guilt as if it is I who am the culprit.
What is it?"

I had recovered myself sufficiently to
reply calmly:
"You will say it is only a political dif-
ference, so why need we discuss it? I
think I was surprised to learn you held
slaves."

"But you knew I was a Southerner and
had money," he said, still in that soft-
spoken tone that had a suggestion of sadness in
it.

"Yes. But some way it seemed impos-
sible to think of you as a slaveholder," I
said with earnestness, looking at his ex-
quisite face and not being able to realize
the truth.

"And is that a great compliment from
you?" he asked.

"The very greatest," I replied.

"And still I have forfeited it," still
looking at me with deep eyes, more pow-
erful than any I had ever seen.

"Which doesn't make the least differ-
ence in the world," I responded, with an
accent of coldness for which I was grate-
ful.

"The children are ready, as you see,"
I continued; "take them before it gets
toward sunset."

"You are also ready?" without stirring
from his position by my side, though both
the little girls were tugging at his hands.

I looked at him with full and distant
glance, while I was glad that I could re-
ply with truth:
"Mrs. Wyndham met me a few moments
ago and requested me to remain at home
and assist her in reading 'Concilio'."

He turned away without another word
and led the children toward the stables,
where the pony was being put into their
special carriage.

I looked after them a moment. In all
probability that man owned my sister;
for, though I had not seen her since a
child, I had known in a vague way that
I had a sister Fannie, who, for some reason,
was always kept upon a distant estate
of my father's. She was not his favorite,
as I was, and now, after years of entire
ignorance concerning her, I heard of her
in this way.

I went into the house and sat down
with Mrs. Wyndham. As I turned over
the leaves of my book, the carriage rolled
down the approach with the negro driver
in front and Ralph Molyneux riding his
own horse by the carriage.

"I thought you would like to be relieved
from the care of the children awhile,"
said Mrs. Wyndham, setting herself back
preparatory to listening, and looking in-
terrogatively at me as she did so.

"I am very glad to remain," I answered.

We sat in a room whose windows looked
toward the west, whence a faint breeze
fluttered the curtains, and the leaves of
the China trees without. The sun was
in cloud nearly all the time, only rarely
sending a shaft of light between the
clouds.

I read on for two hours, at the end of
which time Mrs. Wyndham rose, parted
the curtains, and revealed to our eyes the
cause of the early darkness, for the sun
was within half an hour of setting.

The greenish black of the clouds fore-
told the transitory hurricane tempest
which I knew so well. The dark masses
were piled up in rugged, heavy beauty.

"I wish the children were back," mur-
mured Mrs. Wyndham. "The moment
the sun sets it will be pitch dark, and the

tempest is coming up rapidly. They
ought to be on their way home by this."

"And probably are," I said, bending
out from the window, and trying in vain
to catch a breath of cool air. A sultry
veil of languor was over everything. The
perfume of shrub and bloom exhaled
heavily upon the damp atmosphere;
across that dark heavens the birds flew
with hurrying, yet tired wings. I was
tormented with a desire for a profound
and vigorous breath, which this fragrant
air denied me. I wished to cleave the
atmosphere, forcing the sensation of wind
across my face.

"The tempest will not be here for an
hour," I asked.

"I think not. But Ralph is so odd; he
will just as likely stay out to admire the
thunder, and forget the children."

I did not agree with her in the last
phrase; though careless concerning him-
self, I was sure he was careful of others.

"If Major Wyndham was at home, I
should have him go after them," went on
the lady, nodding about the room. That
remark gave me the opportunity for
which I had been wishing.

"If you will let me have a horse, I
think I can get to the falls in time at
least to see that the children are sheltered."

She looked at me doubtfully, but wish-
ing I would go. I explained that a swift
gale would afford me pleasure, and she
satisfied her scruples with that, and a few
moments after I was riding swiftly along
the wooded road in the direction they
had taken.

The very sight of those monstrous
clouds gave me only a sufficient sense of
fear to be exciting and inspiring.

I rode onward with a wild impetus to
outride my fate, the stain upon my life,
all the miseries that might await me. In
that furious rush of my horse I felt able to
defy life and death.

I had not ridden ten minutes before I saw
that the storm would burst over the earth
sooner than Mrs. Wyndham or I expect-
ed.

That distant muttering of thunder rose
into the reverberating roar that shook the
vicinity world over which it rolled.

My horse sprang forward at that first
concussion; then with ears laid backward,
he rushed on to meet the big drops of
rain that were already splashing among
the trees in advance.

At that moment the pony chase emerg-
ed from the gloom of the road, and dash-
ing past me, the children, with wide, fright-
ened eyes, scarcely recognizing me.

Ralph Molyneux was not with them, but
no idea suggested itself to me as to where
he was.

I did not turn back, for at that moment
I remembered a dismantled old build-
ing not a quarter of a mile further on,
the direction of the falls. I would see
whether the rain, which was over, had
come down in torrents, was over. Even
as I thought this, my horse, who was
more frightened than I, had brought me
opposite the old building, and I rode
him up beneath its roof and sat there on
his back through the gathering storm,
the deep flashes, and the rattle and roar
of the next half hour.

The sun went down in the storm, and
an inky darkness, pierced only by the
livid lightning, encompassed me. But I
was in one of those moods when I fear
nothing, and the blackness and the storm
brought me an eerie enjoyment.

In less than an hour the thunder rolled
away, and I could faintly discern the
long line of dim amethyst light in the
west—the upheaving and setting of
the clouds.

Only the trees dripped heavily now,
and standing in front of the old house,
in the gleam that rapidly widened and
brightened, I saw the narrow rim of a
moon so young that it was already to the
tops of the trees in its descent.

Now, indeed, I could breathe an air
that was the moist breath of sweetness
and purity.

With a sigh of delight in such an at-
mosphere, I turned my horse homeward;
but before he had taken a step, I fancied
I heard either a faint hullo or the echo
of some cry for help. My horse heard it
also, for he stopped with raised head and
erect ears.

To be Continued in our next.

CHARTER

THE
Mississippi River Packet Company.
(Passed during the session of 1869.)

SECTION 1. Enacted by the Senate
and House of Representatives of the State
of Louisiana in General Assembly convened,
That Benjamin Montgomery, C. C. An-
toine, Anders Lewis, Geo. Y. Kelo, J.
Cammarack, P. S. Pinchback, James
W. Mason, Chas. D. Frelson, S. P.
Wilson, J. J. Lonette, R. J. Bontaner,
William John, P. G. Deslonde, Curtis
Pollard, A. Barber, and their asso-
ciates, success and assigns are hereby
created and constituted a body corporate,
for the purpose and with the privileges
and rights a hereinafter set forth.

ART. 1. The body corporate shall
be known by the name and title of
the Mississippi River Packet Company,
and by this title it shall acquire property,
sue and be sued, and shall enjoy and
exercise all the powers and rights of a
body corporate under the laws of Louisi-
ana.

ART. 2. The domicile of the company
shall be the City of New Orleans.

ART. 3. The object of this company is
to construct or otherwise to procure and
maintain one or more steamboats to run
and navigate the Mississippi river, or its
tributaries for the purpose of carrying
freight and passengers.

ART. 4. The capital stock of this com-
pany is hereby fixed at five hundred
thousand dollars, represented by five
thousand shares of one hundred dollars
each, transferable on the books of the
company and each share shall be entitled
to one vote in all meetings of Stockhold-
ers. Ten per cent to be paid when the
amount of two hundred thousand dol-
lars is subscribed, and the remainder
shall be paid at the time and in the man-
ner prescribed by the Board of Directors,
provided that no more than ten per cent
of said subscription shall be called for at
any one, and not oftener than once in
sixty days. The capital stock may be
increased to an amount not exceeding
one million of dollars by a vote repre-
senting two-thirds of the capital.

ART. 5. Three-fourths of the stock-
holders in capital shall have the power
to wind up and settle all affairs of the
company at any time during its exist-
ence, or making such modifications, ad-
ditions or changes to this act on giving
thirty days' previous notice in two of the
newspapers published in this city.

ART. 6. The Board of Directors at an
early day shall proceed to elect the offi-
cers of the company, which shall consist
of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer,
Secretary and such other officers as they
may deem necessary.

ART. 7. The term for which the com-
pany is formed shall be twenty-five
years.

ART. 8. The regular meetings of the
stockholders of the company shall be
held annually, commencing on the first
Monday of December, 1871, at which
time a majority, in capital, shall choose
fifteen of their number to serve as Dire-
ctors for the ensuing year, who shall form
and constitute a Board of Directors for
the management of the affairs of the
company for the following year, or until
their successors are elected as aforesaid.
The persons named in section one of this
act shall constitute the first Board of
Directors, who shall serve until their suc-
cessors are elected, as provided for in this
section.

ART. 9. A failure to elect Directors at a
regular meeting of the stockholders shall
not dissolve the company, but the Direc-
tors then in office shall continue to ex-
ercise their functions until a new board
is elected.

Seven members of the Board of Di-
rectors shall form a quorum to do busi-
ness, and the Board of Directors shall
have power to make and adopt all ne-
cessary rules and by-laws for the govern-
ment of the company; provided, that the
same do not conflict with the true intent
and meaning of this act of incorpora-
tion and the laws of this State. The
Board of Directors may declare dividends
from time to time, as they may deem ad-
visable.

ART. 10. If any Director shall cease to
be a stockholder during his term of office,
it shall be declared vacated; or in the
event of the death, permanent absence or
resignation of any Director, the Board
shall have the authority to fill the vacan-
cy occasioned thereby.

ART. 11. No stockholder shall ever be
liable or responsible for the contracts or
debts of said company beyond the amount
of his, her or their stock in said com-
pany, nor shall any more informality in
the organization of said company have
the effect of rendering the present charter
null, or of exposing a stockholder to any
greater liability than the amount of his,
her or their stock therein.

ART. 12. Should any subscriber refuse
or neglect to pay punctually his, her or
their installments, as the same fall due,
interest at the rate of eight per cent per
annum shall be added thereto from na-
maturity until final payment, and if any
subscriber neglects or refuses to pay his,
her or their installments within thirty
days after the specified time of payment,
the Board of Directors shall have the
right of causing any share or shares,
upon which any installment may be due,
to be sold at auction, or to forfeit said
shares, or to compel by suit the payment
of such installments as the Board may
deem advisable.

ART. 13. The President of the Com-
pany is hereby constituted the officer on
whom all citations may be served.

Sec. 2. Be it further, etc., That this act
take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) MORTIMER CARR,
Speaker House of Representative
(Signed) O. J. DUNN,
Lieutenant Governor and President of
the Senate.

(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true Copy:
(Signed) Geo. E. Boyer,
Secretary of State.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The Republican State Convention of
Louisiana, which assembled in the city
of New Orleans on the 8th of August,
1870, adopted the following declaration
of principles:

1. That we endorse the principles of
the National Republican Party, as set
forth in the Chicago platform of 1868,
and in the adoption of the fifteenth
constitutional amendment, and laws to en-
force the same.

2. That we adhere to the principles of
equal rights to all mankind, whether at
the ballot box, in the public schools, or
in the pursuit of business, without dis-
tinction of caste, race or nationality; and
we pledge ourselves to the enactment
and enforcement of laws to carry out
these principles.

3. That no Government is Republican
unless its citizens can exercise the free
right of suffrage, and we pledge the
whole strength of this State to aid the
executive officers in securing to every
voter his inalienable right to cast his
ballot at the polls for such candidates as
he may select.

4. That manhood and not money makes
the true citizen: that the poor man
should be protected equally with the
wealthy, and, therefore, we pledge our-
selves to the enactment of a liberal home-
stead exemption law.

5. That we are a party of law and or-
der, and, as such, will use our earnest en-
deavors to carry out the liberal intent of
the constitution of 1868, and law enacted
thereunder; that the constitutionality of
any law can only be questioned before
the courts, and that all good citizens
must obey the provisions of every law un-
til declared null by the highest judicial
tribunal.

6. That as the party of progress, we en-
courage internal improvements, the ex-
pansion of our commerce, the full devel-
opment of our material resources, and
the immediate rebuilding of the levees.

7. That special legislation too often
tends to encourage corruption, and to
subvert good government, and we pledge
ourselves to use our best endeavors to
check and ultimately abolish it.

8. That we will sustain and support
the President of the United States, the
Governor of this State, and all of their
subordinate officers, in all efforts they
may make to protect the lives, property
and liberty of our citizens in an honest
and economical administration of the
affairs of government, and in the main-
tenance and enforcement of the great politi-
cal principle of Republicanism as declared
in our party platform.

9. That we heartily approve of the ac-
tion of our Senators and Representatives
in Congress in the efforts they are
making forth to obtain national aid for
the rebuilding of the levees, and the
construction of railroads, and the open-
ing of our harbors, and that we pledge
them our support in similar labors in the
future.

(Continued on fourth page.)

PROSPECTUS
OF THE
NATIONAL LABOR UNION
AND
Bureau of Labor.
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Follow-citizens and Workingmen
of the United States:

The question of the hour is, How can the workingman best improve his condition? This question is not only being agitated in the United States, but throughout the civilized world. The universal law of our existence is, "In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat thy bread." We desire to impress you with this fact, that it is a Divine law, that we must labor, and that the comforts of life can only be attained by honest, patient toil.

It should be the aim of every man to become a capitalist; that is, every man should try and receive an exchange for his labor, which, by proper economy and investment, will, in the future, place him in the position of those on whom he is now dependent for a living. At least it should be your aspiration to become a homestead beyond the reach of want and poverty. As workingmen we can only possess these blessings by being industrious with our brains and hands, temperate in our habits, and economical with our means.

It is the duty of our National Labor Union, and more particularly the Bureau of Labor created by your delegates assembled from nearly every state in the Union, to advise with you upon the best and most speedy means to better your condition in the United States.

We look with painful emotion upon the present condition of colored labor in the several States. Disorganized, poorly paid, assaulted, and, in many cases, totally in different to its own welfare. After a careful survey and consideration of this vital question, in which we have consulted the wisdom and experience of the most profound economists and labor reformers of our times—

We advise you, 1st, to immediately organize, because labor can only protect itself when organized; that is, by being organized thoroughly, you have the command of capital. You receive better pay for your labor. You learn where and how to invest your labor to better advantage. You learn the value of the capital invested with your labor—how to respect that capital, and make that capital respect your labor. You learn will and how to create employment, to give yourselves work when you are debarred by opposite combinations. You learn the wants of your fellow-workmen and how to provide for them.

In a word, without organization, you stand in danger of being exterminated. You cannot expect to be profitably employed, and the trades will soon die out in the race. With organization you will find employment, you will force opposite combinations to recognize your claims to work without restriction because of our color, and open the way for your children to learn trades and move forward in the enjoyment of all the rights of American citizenship. How shall you organize? We answer that a general meeting of the workingmen in every city and town, and after discussing the importance of organization, appoint a committee of one from each branch of trade or labor represented, to prepare a plan or organization. When they have reported a plan, then appoint your committee on constitution and permanent organization. When they report, proceed immediately to form yourselves into an association, send a copy of your constitution and list of officers to the Bureau of Labor, and get your charter. We would advise, where there is a sufficient number of any particular branch, that they organize separate associations. As each man desires to follow that business for which he has been educated. A constitution for the government of a carpenters' association will not suit for the government of a laborers' association. It is important that you organize each branch separately. Five men of any one branch organized, can accomplish more in the interest of that particular branch, than being associated with five hundred men of several branches. Mixed organizations have always proved disastrous to the labor reform movement, except in delegated bodies. The above organizations referred to, are simple organizations for the protection of labor and wages.

We would call your attention to, and advise, and that you form yourselves into co-operative Trade Unions. While these are the most beneficial associations of modern times, they require much judgment, and intellectual ability to make them a success. They seem to be a necessity at this time in order to furnish employment to colored men in many States in the Union. We could not furnish a general plan of organization. Each particular association must be governed by special rules. We can only advise you how to organize, when you inform the Bureau what you propose organizing. We can but say the general principle is, for each man to take a given amount of stock, and pay that in weekly or monthly installments until they have enough to commence business with, so that, by a combination of their money and labor, they will from a capital and business that will give them an independent living. In organizations of this kind no restrictions should be placed upon parties investing because of their other relations. Let any man who will, take an interest with you.

3. We should advise you to organize Building and Land Associations. These can easily be established in connection with your "Trade and Labor Unions," and will have a tendency to strengthen and perpetuate them. Experience has proved that all men can, by the agency of a house for which he would pay rent for one. We shall be pleased to advise you upon the most improved plans of organization.

4. In order to effect a more thorough organization of the colored workingmen of the United States, and advise and enlighten them upon all matters affecting their interest, and battle with the prejudices manifested because of our peculiar position, the National Labor Convention has adopted the *New Era*, a weekly journal published in the city of Washington, as the organ of the colored workingmen of the United States. It

shall be our object to keep you informed as to the condition of the trades in each State, rates of wages, demand for labor, value of real estate, forms of organizations, and to meet all questions, national and local, affecting the interest of the workingmen.

The necessity for such a paper is admitted by all who are the least acquainted with our disorganized condition, and as it is bare possible to disconnect our labor and social interest from our political, we shall at all times, when the necessity demands, take a decided stand in advising you upon all questions that will be to your interest as a race, and to the good of our common country.

As we shall have one or more agents, who shall travel in and through all the States to assist you in organizing all the departments of labor, we hope that every man will make himself an agent to take the paper, and see that his neighbor has one also, until it may be found in every house in the country.

Our course is onward! Let every man put his shoulder to the wheel, and victory and success will perch upon our banners. All communications must be marked "official," and addressed to the President Box 191, Washington, D. C.

P. S.—Your attention is particularly invited to the Constitution of the National Labor Union published in the proceedings of the Convention.

ISAAC MYERS, President.
GEORGE T. DOWNING, Vice President.
LEWIS H. DOUGLASS, Secretary.
CHARLES H. PETERS, Secretary.
COLIN CANNON, Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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11. That we pledge the support of the Republican party of the State to the nomination of this Convention, and will use all honorable means to secure their election.

LETTER FROM INDIANAPOLIS.

THE LOUISIANA SENATORS SPEECHES AT

MAISON HALL—A WELL BEHAVED AUDIENCE—SENATORS SPEECHES, AND GOOD ADVICE.

Special Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette.

INDIANAPOLIS, JULY 23.

A novel entertainment was presented to the citizens of Indianapolis, last evening, in the address of Messrs. Finckh and Antoine, of the Louisiana Senate, and of Mr. Barber, Harbor Master of New Orleans. The audience drawn to hear them was a large one, numbering some three hundred persons, but the proportion of white people who could so far overcome their natural prejudice as to come out and witness the address, was not very large. Perhaps however, the admission fee of twenty-five cents, to hear Messrs. Finckh and Antoine, and the balance to go to charitable purposes, had something to do with the matter, and that this prejudice could have been conquered, is a much more than for the financial cause of the problem. As it was, the audience was what may be well called highly respectable. Many of the colored people showed the unmistakable marks of poverty, but they were, without exception, cleanly, dressed, were orderly and behaved throughout—much more so than a majority of American audiences upon similar occasions. They showed a careful and appreciative attention, cheering with a will at the right points, but remaining exceedingly quiet at other times. In behavior, it was just such an audience as a speaker delights to talk to.

Mr. Finckh was the leading speaker of the evening, his theme being "Prejudice." He truly said that this was now the chief obstacle that the colored people have to overcome, and that this could be swept away, so that each man should stand or fall upon his own merits, they would have no cause longer for complaint.

Mr. Finckh was an exceedingly pleasant and agreeable speaker, taking in an easy, off-hand manner, and possessing a fine fund of wit, humor and pathos. The white blood predominated in his veins, and one is reminded in listening to him of the exclamation of the Irishman, "who said that, what must a whole nigger do!"

PROSPECTUS
OF THE
NATIONAL LABOR UNION
AND
Bureau of Labor
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Yellow-cards and Workingmen of the United States:
The question of the hour is, How can the workingman best improve his condition? This question is not only being agitated in the United States, but throughout the civilized world. The universal law of our existence is, "In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat thy bread." We desire to impress you with this fact, that it is a Divine law, that we must labor, and that the comforts of life can only be attained by honest, patient toil.

It should be the aim of every man to become a capitalist; that is, every man should try and receive an exchange for his labor, which, by proper economy and investment, will, in the future, place him in the position of those on whom he is now dependent for a living. At least it should be your aspiration to become the owner of your own home-land, and place that homestead beyond the reach of want and poverty. As workingmen we can only possess these blessings by being industrious with our brains and hands, temperate in our habits, and economical with our means.

It is the duty of our National Labor Union, and more particularly the Bureau of Labor created by your delegates assembled from nearly every state in the Union, to advise with you upon the best and most speedy means to better your condition in the United States.

We look with painful emotion upon the present condition of colored labor in the several States. Disorganized, poorly paid, assaulted, and, in many cases, totally in different to its own welfare. After a careful survey and consideration of this vital question, in which we have consulted the wisdom and experience of the most prominent economists and labor reformers of our times—

We advise you, 1st, to immediately organize, because labor can only protect itself when organized; that is, by being organized thoroughly, you have the command of capital. You receive better pay for your labor. You learn where and how to invest your labor to better advantage. You learn the value of the capital invested with your labor—how to respect that capital, and make it that capital respect your labor. You learn where and how to create employment, to give yourselves work when you are debarrd by opposite combinations. You learn the wants of your fellow-workmen and how to provide for them.

In a word, without organization, you stand in danger of being exterminated. You cannot expect to be profitably employed, and the trades will soon die out in the race. With organization you will find employment, you will force opposite combinations to recognize your claims to work without restriction because of our color, and upon the way for your children to learn trades and move forward in the enjoyment of all the rights of American citizenship. How shall you organize? We answer call a general meeting, or the workmen in every city and town, and after discussing the importance of organization, appoint a committee of one from each branch of trade or labor represented, to prepare a plan for organization. When they have reported a plan, then appoint your committee on constitution and permanent organization. When they report, proceed immediately to form yourselves into an association, send a copy of your constitution and list of officers to the Bureau of Labor, and your charter. We would advise, where there is a sufficient number of any particular branch, that they organize separate associations. As each man desires to follow that business, for which he is best adapted. As a constitution for the government of a carpenters' association will not suit for the government of a laborers' association, it is important that you organize each branch separately. Five men of any one branch organized, can accomplish more in the interest of that particular branch, than being associated with five hundred men of several branches. Mixed organizations have always proved disastrous to the labor reform movement, except in delegated bodies. The above organizations referred to, are simple organizations for the protection of labor and wages.

We would call your attention to, and advise, and that you form yourselves into co-operative Trade Unions. While these are the most beneficial associations of modern times, they require much judgment, and intellectual ability to make them a success. They seem to be a necessity at this time in order to furnish employment to colored men in many States in the Union. We could not furnish a general plan of organization. Each particular association must be governed by special rules. We can only advise you how to organize, when you inform the Bureau what you propose organizing. We can but say the general principle is, for each man to take a given amount of stock, and pay that in weekly or monthly installments until they have enough to commence business with, so that, by a combination of their money and labor, they will form a capital and business that will give them an independent living. In organizations of this kind no restrictions would be placed upon parties investing because of their color relations. Let any man who will, take an interest with you.

3. We should advise you to organize Building and Labor Associations. These can easily be established in connection with your "Trade and Labor Unions," and will have a tendency to strengthen and perpetuate them. Experience has proved that all men can, by the agency of a house for what he would pay rent for one. We shall be pleased to advise you upon the most improved plans of organization.

4. In order to effect a more thorough organization of the colored workingmen of the United States, and advise and enlighten them upon all questions affecting their interest, and battle with the prejudices manifested because of our peculiar position, the National Labor Convention has organized the *New Era*, a weekly journal published in the city of Washington, as the organ of the colored workingmen of the United States. It shall be our object to keep you informed as to the condition of the trades in each State, rates of wages, demand for labor, value of real estate, forms of organizations, and to meet all questions, national and local, effecting the interest of the workingmen.

The necessity for such a paper is admitted by all who are the least acquainted with our disorganized condition, and as it is bare possible to discern our labor and social interest from our political, we shall at all times, when the necessity demands, take a decided stand in advising you upon all questions that will be to your interest as a race, and to the good of our common country.

As we shall have one or more agents, who shall travel in and through all the States to assist you in organizing all the departments of labor, we hope that every man will make himself an agent to take the paper, and see that his neighbor has one also, until it may be found in every house in the country.

Our course is onward! Let every man put his shoulder to the wheel, and victory and success will perch upon our banners. All communications must be marked "official," and addressed to the President Box 191, Washington, D. C.

P. S.—Your attention is particularly invited to the Constitution of the National Labor Union published in the proceedings of the Convention.

ISAAC MYERS, President.
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THOMAS ISABELLE. GEO. H. BRAUGHN.
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